

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A user interface for a medical image comprising:
 - a memory for storing a plurality of data sets, each data set corresponding to an image of a location within a medical body of interest;
 - a plurality of data points within each image, each data point corresponding to a measured parameter collected from the medical body of interest;
 - a visual display having the image thereon, the image being composed of a visual representation of the respective data points for that image;
 - a color scale variation on the visual display of the image providing a first color scale of those data points in the image that have been analyzed and determined to have a common characteristic; and
 - an image analysis indicator on the same visual display as the image, the image analysis indicator showing a color scale variation corresponding to the different characteristics of the data;
2. Each data point is composed of information from a plurality of data sets of different types.
3. A user interface for the visual display of an image from an object under study comprising:
 - a visual display terminal having thereon the image from the object under study;
 - first markings on the image as presented on the visual display terminal indicating locations on image that correspond to tissues of interest;
 - second markings on the visual display terminal at a location spaced from the image indicating that the image has first markings thereon.

4. The user interface according to claim 3 wherein the first markings indicate similar regions of material within the object itself that have been identified by a computer analysis of the data collected about the object.

5. The user interface according to claim 4 where in the object is a medical body and similar regions correspond to tissues that have similar characteristics.

6. The user interface according to claim 5 wherein the tissue is a type of cancer.

7. The user interface according to claim 3 wherein the second markings are at a selected location on the visual display terminal to attract the attention of a user.

8. The user interface according to claim 3 wherein the first and second markings are the same color as each other on the visual display terminal.

9. The user interface according to claim 3 further including:
a plurality of images of the object under study displayed simultaneously on the visual display terminal;
second markings present on the visual display terminal associated with each of the plurality of images that have a tissue of interest thereon, indicating whether each respective image has a tissue of interest thereon.

10. The user interface according to claim 9 further including:
first markings on those images within the plurality of images that contain tissues of interest on the image.

11. A user interface for the visual display of an image from an object under study comprising:

a terminal having thereon on plurality of images of the object under study;

tissue of interest identified on at least one of the images under study;

a marking associated with each of the images indicating those images which contain a region that is similar to the tissue of interest, the marking being spaced from the tissue of interest within each respective image.

12. The user interface according to claim 11 wherein the marking associated with each image is spaced from the image.

13. The user interface according to claim 11 wherein the marking associated with each image is at an identical location relative to the image it is associated with for each of the respective images.

14. The user interface according to claim 11 wherein each of the plurality of images is within a window and the marking is at the upper left hand corner of a window that includes the image.

15. The user interface according to claim 11 further including:

a tissue of interest marking on the image indicating the location within the image itself that contains the tissue of interest.

16. The user interface according to claim 15 wherein the tissue of interest has a selected color within each image and the marking has the same color as the tissue of interest.

17. The user interface according to claim 11 wherein the marking has a first form when the tissue of interest indicator is turned on and a second form when the tissue of interest indicator is turned off.

18. A method of indicating images within a set of images that contain a region of interest comprising:

locating in a first image a selected type of tissue within a region of interest;

performing a computer analysis on the image to locate within the image any tissue that is similar to the selected tissue within the region of interest;

performing a computer analysis of a plurality of images to locate within each of the images any tissue that is similar to the selected tissue;

placing an analysis status indicator associated with each image that contains tissue of interest.

19. The method according to claim 17 wherein each image is within a window on a visual display terminal and the analysis status indicator associated with that image is in the upper left hand corner of that window.